SAVING THE BASE, SECURING OUR FUTURE

Dear Friends,

As the new state Senator for the 20th District, I have worked hard to find solutions to problems that affect residents of Southeastern Connecticut. No concern was greater than the threatened closing of the New London Submarine Base.

Working with a bipartisan group of elected officials, local business leaders, dedicated residents and others, Connecticut made its case to the BRAC Commission. As a result, the commission voted to remove Groton from the closure list that goes to the President and Congress for their consideration—potentially saving the base from this round of base closings.

In the 2005 legislative session, we made important improvements in the state's commitment to help cities and towns meet the needs of residents. I have included in this report a chart that details the additional aid provided to your town. I have also included a summary of some additional issues that were also addressed.

If you have additional concerns or questions, you can call my office.

Andrea Stillman

Yours truly,

State Senator, 20th District



Legislative Office Building, Room 3200 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Andrea Stillman

Legislative Office Building, Room 3600 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol Phone: 1-800-842-1420

E-MAIL: Stillman@senatedems.ct.gov

Web: www.senatedems.ct.gov/Stillman.html

Representing the 20th District: East Lyme, Montville, New London, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Salem & Waterford

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2005 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

STATE AID

WATERFORD

Waterford will receive more state aid than last year to assist with school budgets, maintain roads and help pay for other general services.

| | FY 04-05 | FY 05-06 | FY 04-05 |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Aid to Towns for Schools | \$790,363 | \$901,748 | \$111,385 |
| Other Municipal Grants | \$742,035 | \$816,854 | \$74,819 |
| Total S | \$1,532,398 | \$1,718,602 | \$186,204 |

Protecting the Environment

- Created a Bi-State Long Island Sound Committee responsible for recommending legislation to avoid, and help mitigate, the impact of the proposed industrialization of the Sound
- Passed clean car legislation to provide greater incentives for consumers to purchase hybrids or alternative energy vehicles

Strengthening Ethics in Government

 The legislature replaced the State Ethics Commission with an Office of State Ethics—an independent, stand-alone agency designed to remove politics from the process

Defending the Submarine Base

 \$10 million was earmarked for infrastructure improvements to increase the strategic military value of the submarine base

Providing Opportunity for Students

- Passed one of the largest expansions of the School Readiness program since its inception
- Supported our state colleges and universities with an additional \$52 million more than originally proposed

Protecting Working Families

- The HUSKY health insurance program for low-income adults has been saved from proposed budget cuts
- The legislature increased the minimum wage to \$7.40 an hour in 2006 and to \$7.65 an hour in 2007

Keeping our Roads Safe

 Banned cell phone use while driving a motor vehicle, unless the driver uses a hands-free device